

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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42

ACTION NEA-16

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6856

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJ: AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

1. SIRRI INFORMS THAT A GROUP CALLED AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAS CONTACTED GHORBAL WITH VIEW TO SENDING A COMMITTEE TO VISIT EGYPT IN EARLY JUNE. COMMITTEE WOULD CONSIST OF FOUR/FIVE MEMBERS ALLEGEDLY DESIROUS OF OBTAINING FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE OF SITUATION AND EXAMINE POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACE BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS. THEY WOULD USE INFORMATION OBTAINED TO FURTHER CAUSE OF "PEACE AND JUSTICE".

2. SAME GROUP SENT A COMMITTEE JULY 1968, AND PREPARED A REPORT. LATTER, HOWEVER, WAS CRITICIZED BY ARABS AS NOT BEING EVEN-HANDED. WHEN EGYPTIAN EMBASSY AT THAT TIME CONTACTED PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATION HE ACKNOWLEDGED SHORTCOMINGS AND SAID HE WAS SORRY ABOUT REPORT.

3. GHORBAL HAS TOLD MFA THAT DESPITE PREVIOUS REPORT GROUP SHOULD AGAIN BE PERMITTED TO VISIT EGYPT. BEFORE MFA TAKES DECISION, SIRRI HAS ASKED WHAT WE CAN TELL HIM ABOUT AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. PLEASE ADVISE.
EILTS

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